

September Safe and Sound (Wyre Forest)

North Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership
Chair – Sue Hanley

Keep it REAL – A Special Focus on Young People this Month

Many parents and carers will have waved their young people off to start a new life at University, often in large towns or cities. We understand that this month's target audience will be unlikely to be the same as our readers, so please pass this information on and help to keep our young people safe.

For most of us the streets are relatively safe and we can walk around without fear of becoming a victim of crime, but statistics show that young men living in the UK are most at risk from violence and aggression.

National Personal Safety Day, 5th October 2016, is an annual event organised by the Suzy Lamplugh Trust. One of the Trust's campaigns is called **Keep it REAL** which has some very relevant advice for young people, asking them to be aware of possible dangers and to take steps to ensure their own safety.

Ready

- Plan your journey; tell someone where you are going and when you will be home
- Check your mobile phone is charged and has credit before you leave; know who to call in an emergency
- Consider carrying a personal alarm

Educate Yourself

- Understand the risks of the environment around you. Is your route busy and well-lit? Can you avoid quiet or badly-lit alleyways or subways?

Be Alert

- Using your phone or wearing headphones could limit your awareness of risks and dangers
Stay alert to what's going on around you
- Try to keep your valuables out of sight
- If you spot potential danger ahead change your route and head for a safe place where there are other people

Stay Legal

- Remember – it's illegal to carry a knife, a gun, an imitation firearm, or pepper spray
- If you are caught with a knife or a gun, regardless of whether you say it was for your own protection or you were carrying it for someone else, you will be arrested and prosecuted

For more information, go to www.nationalpersonalsafetyday.co.uk Visit www.nwcsp.org for more information about North Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership and follow us on Twitter @SaferWyreForest and like our Facebook page SaferWyreForest (Community Organisation).